Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-13. (Cancelled)

14.(Currently Amended) A purified polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a Na+/H+ transporter polypeptide which when expressed confers increased salt tolerance in a plant, compared to a plant that lacks the polynucleotide sequence; wherein the transporter polypeptide ~~comprises~~ consists of:

i. an amino acid sequence which has at least 80% ~~identical~~ sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:2; and

ii. fewer than ~~522~~ 530 amino acids.

15.(Previously Presented) The polynucleotide of claim 14 wherein the nucleotide sequence is SEQ ID No. 9.

16-20.(Cancelled)

21.(New) The polynucleotide of claim 14, wherein the nucleotide sequence has at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 9.

22.(New) The polynucleotide of claim 14, wherein the amino acid sequence has at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 10.

23.(New) The polynucleotide of claim 14, wherein the amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 10.

24.(New) A recombinant DNA vector comprising a plant promoter and a polynucleotide sequence encoding a Na+/H+ transporter polypeptide which when expressed confers increased salt tolerance in a plant compared to a plant that lacks the polynucleotide sequence; wherein the transporter polypeptide consists of:

i. an amino acid sequence which has at least 80% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:2; and

ii. fewer than 530 amino acids.

25.(New) The recombinant DNA vector of claim 24, wherein the promoter is a constitutive promoter.

26.(New) The recombinant DNA vector of claim 24, wherein the nucleotide sequence has at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 9.

27.(New) The recombinant DNA vector of claim 24, wherein the nucleotide sequence is SEQ ID NO: 9.

28.(New) The recombinant DNA vector of claim 24, wherein the amino acid sequence has at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 10.

29.(New) The recombinant DNA vector of claim 24, wherein the amino acid sequence is SEQ ID NO: 10.